

2022-23
Annual Report



**Indigenous
Desert Alliance**
Keeping the desert connected

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Keeping the desert connected

The Indigenous Desert Alliance (IDA) is a member based organisation that plays a vital role in securing the future health of the Australian desert and its people. It does this by strengthening the existing connections between desert people, empowering Indigenous groups to look after their country and by promoting the importance of the Australian desert.

We work with over 60 ranger groups from across the desert to support in our role 'Keeping the Desert Connected' to empower a united voice for the desert.

Highlights

IDA Conference 2022

The largest gathering of Indigenous rangers in Australia. 375 delegates from over 40 desert ranger teams making the journey to Uluru to share knowledge and skills and discuss matters of regional and global importance.

Right Way Desert Fire

The world's biggest Indigenous fire program. 25 Indigenous ranger teams working together at landscape scale to look after Country the right way.

Chairperson's Message

Dear Members,

It is with great pride and gratitude that I present to you the Annual Report for the Indigenous Desert Alliance (IDA) for the year 2022-23.

As we look back on the past year in the desert, I see a lot of activity like ranger exchanges continuing between groups from all points of the compass, I see rangers up in helicopters and planes putting fire back into Country and I see new ranger teams being supported with their first big trips back to Country. I see the IDA growing into an essential, strong, Indigenous-led organisation for desert rangers that is committed to empowering you all to do your best. I see all this underpinned by a growing network of members and supporters that believe in what we are doing.

When I saw you all at Uluru, I referred to all of the rangers gathered, all of the staff and supporters as 'my desert family'. That's how I think of the IDA, all of us as one big family looking after our home. We need each other and the desert needs us to stay close and to keep working together. As we move forward, let us remember that our mission is not just about preserving the desert; it's about preserving a way of life and culture that has thrived for thousands of years. Together, we will ensure that this legacy endures for generations to come.

M. Rose

Nyaparu Rose

IDA Chairperson Nyaparu Rose speaking at IDA Conference 2022 with IDA Deputy CEO Sam Murray.

Mulyamiji March

A national monitoring event for the culturally significant Great Desert Skink. 110 Indigenous rangers from 13 ranger teams joined forces with scientists and land managers recording 541 active Tjakura burrow systems.

Ranger Development Program

Learning, sharing and working together. A professional development, peer-to-peer learning program delivering Indigenous ranger-led projects and leadership exchanges.

Desert Internship

Piloting an immersive internship program to strengthen employment and recruitment pathways in the Indigenous land management sector.

Speaking Up

From COP15 in Montreal Canada, to conservation conferences and ranger events back home, Elders and emerging leaders continue to share knowledge and advocate for the desert and its people.

Ranger Team Exchanges

An increasingly popular platform for keeping the desert connected and sharing skills and knowledge between both emerging and more established Indigenous ranger teams.

IDA Foundation

Progressing a model to secure long-term funding to suit the needs of Indigenous desert rangers and their organisations.

CEO Report

I am proud to present the IDA annual report for the financial year 2022-23. Over the course of this year, I have found myself regularly returning to the opening page of the IDA website to re-read the following statement:

"Our desert has been cared for and expertly managed over thousands of years by Indigenous minds, hearts and hands. Today, a network of Indigenous rangers (the IDA) are sharing information, practices and working together to provide the highest standard of stewardship and care for the desert."

I have recently worked out why I keep returning to it!

I realised that this statement highlights two essential elements that define the distinctive context in which IDA operates: the interplay between the past and the present, and the integration of old and new approaches. Indigenous rangers continually confront the challenge of applying traditional knowledge-based land management practices to preserve their desert, all while the impacts of human-induced climate change are rapidly reshaping our desert in ways that are not fully understood. The stewardship model that rangers must spearhead encompasses adaptation to and integration of swiftly evolving technologies, a rapidly shifting information landscape, the integration of new people and connection with national and even global networks. In 2023, the desert presents a complex social, cultural, economic, physical, and virtual terrain that requires adept navigation.

In early 2023, the Fitzroy River floods decimated communities in the Fitzroy valley, cutting off ranger teams from their communities and Country. This was an especially difficult time for rangers in this part of the country who are still recovering from the floods and will do so for some time. It also highlighted to the IDA and its members that the environment in which we work is changing, that extreme conditions are impacting the health of our beautiful desert, and that the job of providing the highest standard of stewardship of the desert is getting harder.

This year, the IDA set itself the task of understanding "how best it can be of help to its members in this new paradigm?" This question, posed internally and externally, led to many discussions with a common refrain being stated – "by building resilience". Resilience is and has been a critical theme for the development of our five-year strategic plan for the IDA (2023-2028). The new plan is based around our three 'strong' strategic pillars:

1. Strong and United Voice for the Desert
2. Strong Ranger Teams
3. Strong Organisation

Building climate resilience is a cross cutting theme across the three pillars and is highlighted in many of the activity summaries that follow later in this report.

Throughout this year, as we've executed our strategic plan, our primary emphasis has been on

enhancing resilience within our foundational activities (loosely described as 'running the IDA network') and organisational roles, which form the bedrock of the IDA. In early 2023, we achieved a significant milestone by securing substantial and long-term funding to "secure the IDA core" for the next five years. This marks the first instance in the IDA's history when we've attained the kind of long-term stability needed to fully realize our strategic plan.

Through our Sector Development team, we have had the ability to stretch and expand our organisation to respond to some of the crucial professional, structural, and resource needs of our members in the desert; enabling them to build ever resilient ranger programs.

With our Desert Projects team, we are empowering our members to establish robust collaborative networks to address mounting regional threats to biodiversity, such as large wildfires or facilitating the development of National Recovery Plans for species like the Great Desert Skink, among other initiatives.

Our advocacy work this year has been notable with IDA taking its seat on many government panels, building our networks in Canberra and working with our members and supporters to continuing to raise the voice of the desert through the largest ever IDA Conference at Uluru in late 2022.

2023 has offered multiple reasons for celebration, indicating that the IDA is effectively working toward our long-term goal of helping our members to thrive in our globally significant desert. This Annual Report provides numerous examples of our collaborative efforts with members in achieving this objective.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our 25 Indigenous-led member organisations, dedicated rangers, diligent staff, and committed board members spread across the four desert regions. Your continuous engagement, openness in discussing your ideas, sharing challenges, and expressing your aspirations for the desert rangers have been invaluable. Thanks to your unwavering efforts, collaborative spirit, and deep passion for your work, what began as a side event at the World Parks Congress in Sydney in 2014 has now evolved into a globally renowned Indigenous-led network for Indigenous rangers.

Lastly, I would like to thank our board and staff for another year of commitment to the mission of the IDA and the spirit in which your considerable efforts have been conducted. We need more true believers in our patch of the world. Our members need more hands and hearts helping them to steward the desert for future generations. It is the example you set that ensures me that many more will follow.



Lindsey Langford

Deputy CEO Report

It has been a wonderful year of growth for IDA and its members!

As I reflect upon my first year as Deputy CEO of the IDA, I am filled with immense pride to be a desert person in this role working alongside a passionate team, to support the hardworking desert organisations and ranger teams looking after country. This year has not only been a year of growth for IDA but also for myself as I learn to inhabit my role better and become a strong spokesperson for desert rangers.

During the last year, I have enjoyed spending time with the NT Rangers at the Central Land Council Ranger Camp in Ross River and speaking with SA Rangers at the Aboriginal Land Management workshop in Adelaide. It's been important for me to head out and yarn with people about what's happening in their communities and what they would like to happen on their Country in terms of land management.

The IDA has also been able to connect and support more SA Ranger teams this past year through our Ranger Development Program, Network and Threatened Species support. It's always a good feeling to bring more desert teams into the IDA membership, to support more connection with all other groups working in our part of the world.

As one of our three pillars – Strong and United Voice, this has been a focus of our team and especially of mine. It is a priority of the IDA to work hard to make sure desert rangers and IDA members always have 'seats at the table' when meeting with government, funders and support organisations and our desert voices are heard especially when it comes to Indigenous land management.

I want to thank all IDA members and the rangers that share their stories throughout the year. This is important, as not only does it help to tell the story of the desert, but it keeps us all connected in the important work we all do – caring for Country!



Sam Murray

Strong and United Voice

IDA Conference 2022

In November, the IDA Conference once again returned to Yulara in the Northern Territory. It marked the first time rangers from across the desert had been able to meet in person since 2019 due to COVID-19 restrictions. Over 40 Indigenous ranger teams were represented by 375 delegates at the conference.

There were also many representatives attending from member organisations, philanthropic organisations, government supporters and partners working to support the Indigenous land management sector. There was a huge amount of excitement in rangers coming back together again to learn and share stories with one another about their work looking after country.

The conference program facilitated presentations from over 20 ranger teams in dedicated sessions covering key topics including fire, ranger team exchanges, ranger development and threatened species. Throughout the three-day program, there was a wide variety of field trips and practical workshops to activate discussion and share knowledge. The Ranger-to-Ranger sessions facilitated rangers and Elders to speak openly about their aspirations, concerns, and goals for the sector. Once again, these Indigenous-facilitated sessions will inform the IDA's agenda over the next twelve months.

The Conference also saw the inaugural IDA Ranger Awards. Congratulations to all recipients:

- **Emerging Ranger of the Year (Male),** Kevin Malthouse, Tjuwanpa Rangers
- **Emerging Ranger of the Year (Female),** Kitana Shaw, Aputula Rangers
- **Ranger of the Year (Male),** Sam Stuart, Arabana Rangers
- **Ranger of the Year (Female),** Bronwen Cavanagh, Ltyentye Apurte Rangers
- **Senior Ranger of the Year (Male),** Paul Carnegie, Warnpurru
- **Senior Ranger of the Year (Female),** Jeannie (Langaliki) Robin, Walalkara IPA Rangers
- **Ranger Coordinator,** Aaron Eulenstein, Gingirana Rangers

"Today in this room, I can see, I can feel, and I can hear the power."

Hon Chanston Paech, NT Minister and Member for Gwoja, IDA Conference 2022

Advocacy

In 2023, the IDA has made significant strides in elevating the voices of desert Indigenous communities through various initiatives.

Firstly, Sam Murray, the IDA's Deputy CEO has been actively involved in multiple speaking engagements and government panels, with a keen focus on advocating for the priorities of Indigenous desert rangers. Sam's participation in the working group for First Nations standards under the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) underscores IDA's commitment to being at the table.

IDA staff have presented alongside Indigenous rangers at various conferences and events with the aim of ensuring that the desert voice is heard in forums that have been predominantly the domain of non-Indigenous land managers.

Internationally, the IDA has fostered collaboration with Nunatsiavut leaders from the Arctic in Northern Canada, facilitating an exchange of ideas and experiences. This engagement has contributed to a broader understanding of the shared struggles and goals of Indigenous communities, transcending geographical boundaries.

The IDA has been very active in responding to calls for submissions by the Australian Government in relation to policy and program design to support a healthy Indigenous ranger sector in the desert as well as new legislation specifically around the newly emerging nature markets.

In summary, the IDA's advocacy approach in 2023 has been marked by proactive and collaborative efforts to elevate and empower desert Indigenous communities, ensuring that their voices are heard and their concerns addressed on multiple fronts.

Communications and Media

The IDA continues to amplify and promote the globally significant work of its members and put the desert on the map.

Throughout the year, the IDA has used a range of mediums and activations to reach new audiences and raise awareness about Indigenous rangers looking after desert Country. Key highlights include:

- 287 earned media hits highlighting the collaborative projects of IDA members, reaching 80 million readers.
- Increasing the IDA's social media impressions to 1.1 million, up 293% from 269K.
- Delivering four on Country camera storytelling trainings with ranger teams.
- Employment and mentoring of two Indigenous junior communications staff.
- Launching an online collection of Indigenous land management resources, known as the Members Hub, with 98 downloadable items and counting.

Desert Hub

Indigenous rangers from the desert need a culturally appropriate head-quarters in the city. The IDA board and staff team have been working with world class building partners to design and refurbish a neighbouring building on Newcastle Street, West Perth where IDA members will feel comfortable meeting in. It will look and feel like the desert in the city and enable rangers and stakeholders to host events, exhibitions, launches, forums, seminars and talks. The opening of the Desert Hub is expected before the end of 2023.



IDA Conference 2022 delegates on day three.



Tjakura workshop on Katiti Petermann IPA during IDA Conference



Joint management field trip hosted by staff from the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park

Strong Ranger Teams

The IDA Network

The IDA Network has been connecting and meeting for the past nine years to build relationships, exchange knowledge and information, outline regional priorities for looking after the desert, identify areas on which to collaborate and ultimately, to raise the profile of the Indigenous land management (ILM) sector.

The IDA facilitates activities and events that promote connection, exchange and advocacy such as:

- The biannual IDA Conference - which is now the largest gathering of Indigenous rangers in Australia
- On Country ranger training, skills and knowledge exchange events for our members

The IDA keeps the network connected and talking by coordinating regular catch-ups between rangers, coordinators and program managers and through an active, member-focused online presence.



Walungurru Rangers at Central Land Council 2023 Ranger Camp



South Australian Aboriginal Land and Sea Workshop

Ranger Coordinator Network Catch ups

IDA facilitated Ranger Coordinator (RC) Network catchups happen regularly throughout the field season as a means of connecting RCs from across the desert. They also provide an opportunity to discuss a topic at length, supported by guest presenters. This past year has seen discussions on IDA's Ranger-to-Ranger sessions, Ranger Team Exchanges, Mulyamiji March, fire management, and the Desert Internship Program.

IDA Network Supported events

The IDA supports and attends many desert-based ILM events hosted by its members throughout the year. This is all part of keeping the desert connected and responding to both regional and local land management interests and priorities. Recent highlights include:

- Central Land Council's (CLC) 2023 Ranger Camp at Ross River, NT. There were fourteen CLC ranger teams camping, along with rangers from Ngaanyatjarra, APY Land Management, Kiwirrkurra, Tjuwanpa Women, NT Parks, and Parks Australia. The camp included training and professional development opportunities, as well as providing an occasion to catch up with friends and colleagues, old and new.
- The South Australian Aboriginal Land and Sea Management workshop at Hahndorf in April 2023 was facilitated by Country Needs People (CNP) and MC'd by Keith Thomas, CEO of SA Native Title Services. The workshop demonstrated that there is a growing call for more Indigenous rangers connecting and looking after land and sea country in South Australia.



Ngururrpa and Nyul Nyul Rangers at Beagle Bay.



Nyikina-Mangala Rangers Raymond and William with APY Ranger Ronnie Wells.

Ranger Team Exchanges

The IDA supports Indigenous ranger teams working in the desert to undertake exchanges. Ranger Team Exchanges support the professional capacity development of desert rangers by maintaining connections between rangers working across the desert (and elsewhere in Australia) and by providing a platform for the exchange of information and enhancement of skills and knowledge.

Bilby and Feral Cat Management: Gooniyandi and Kiwirrkurra Ranger Teams

Gooniyandi Rangers travelled from Fitzroy Crossing to Kiwirrkurra to learn practical skills of tracking and trapping feral cats from the Kiwirrkurra Rangers, and where they were joined by the Walungurru Rangers. They learned from the Kiwirrkurra Rangers and Traditional Owners on cat catching through using a combination of reading the landscape, tracking on foot, and vehicles not only as a means of covering more ground but also a tool to encourage cats back towards those moving on foot.

The return journey enabled Kiwirrkurra travel to Bawoorrooga Community in Gooniyandi Country. Kiwirrkurra Rangers were shown bilby burrows in a very gravelly patchy area that bilbies use during the wet seasons. They were also shown different types of burrows in the same area, recognising that these types of burrows are not found in Kiwirrkurra.

Bilbies from the Desert to the Sea: Ngururrpa and Nyul Nyul Ranger Team Exchange

The Nyul Nyul and Ngururrpa Rangers attended a bilby workshop together (along with other ranger groups) in Fitzroy Crossing. During the workshop, the rangers from each group yarned about a Tjukurrpa story about a bilby traveling all the way from the desert near Ngururrpa to Nyul Nyul Country. Ngururrpa Rangers wanted to expand their knowledge on bilby behaviour and habitat so decided to go to Nyul Nyul to learn about bilbies that live near the coastline at Beagle Bay and to connect culturally.

"We're learning these new ways and old ways and getting to know the lands out there working, yuwa!"

Justine Jones, Warnpurru Ranger

A Kickstart for the Warnpurru Ranger Program: Warnpurru, Birriliburu and Warakurna Ranger Team Exchange

The Warnpurru Rangers are an emerging group, eager to learn and develop new skills for their work looking after country. Recognising the value of learning from those who have come before them, the Warnpurru Rangers set out on a journey to connect with the experienced Birriliburu and Warakurna Rangers. The goal of the exchange was to present and participate in peer-to-peer learning workshops and demonstrate activities including burning, animal surveying, track maintenance and visitor management. Through this hands-on approach to learning with experienced rangers, the Warnpurru Rangers gained confidence and understanding of ranger work, what knowledge they can already apply, and good ways for learning new skills.

Learning to look after the Black-Footed Rock-Wallaby: APY Waru Rangers and Nyikina-Mangala Ranger Team Exchange

The ranger team exchange focused on the conservation, ecology and management of the Black-Footed Rock-Wallaby: named Waru on the APY Lands and Wiliji on Nyikina-Mangala (NM) Country.

During their visit, the APY Waru Rangers were welcomed through a smoking ceremony conducted by community elders at Jarlmadangah Burru. The following days consisted of an on Country visit and NM cultural sharing activities, including boating, fishing, hunting, and crocodile awareness.

The exchange was also reinforced through planned discussions, presentations, and film nights on a range of ILM activities.

Sector Development

Ranger Development Program

The Ranger Development Program (RDP) kicked off in 2019 and is a key part of the IDA’s work to support the capacity building of rangers across the desert. The RDP supports ranger teams to learn and build skills. It does this through:

- On Country support
- Ground up project development
- Regional knowledge-sharing workshops and events
- Creating leadership opportunities

2022-23 Project highlights include:

- Ngurrpa Rangers, led by Clifford Sunfly, completed a ‘Drone Cultural Mapping Project’ to enable rangers to map and monitor priority sites on Country.
- Ngurrara Rangers, led by Sumayah Surprise and Raylene (Emily) Lenmardi, hosted a two-way learning exchange, inviting Warakurna and Warnpurru Rangers at Kurlku and Fitzroy Crossing.
- Nyangumarta Rangers completed RDP facilitated on Country camera and media training as part of their ‘Transfer of knowledge by elders and rangers to school kids’ project.
- Birriliburu Rangers developed and documented content for tourism products at Katjarra (Carnarvon Ranges). These products will support Birriliburu to incorporate this knowledge into Indigenous-led cultural tours.
- Wiluna Martu Rangers invited and hosted Warburton women rangers, for a ‘Women’s knowledge sharing camp’ on Country at Ululla.
- Yilka Rangers developed a ‘Flying eagle project’, where the team undertook drone training for mapping and monitoring important places on Country.
- South Australian based ranger teams were supported at ranger events and forums throughout the year.

Supporting leadership

In addition to supporting projects, the RDP has supported additional leadership opportunities as they emerge alongside ranger teams.

In November 2022, Nyangumarta, Tjiwarl, Ngurrara, Wiluna Martu and Kiwirrkurra Rangers presented at the Two-Way Science Conference hosted by WA Education Department with support from the IDA.

Rangers involved with the RDP shared their learnings and achievements at the IDA Conference through presentations, videos, and the facilitation of a ranger-led public speaking workshop.



Wiluna Martu Rangers hosting RDP cultural knowledge sharing camp for women with Warburton Rangers at Ululla.



Lynette, Sumayah and Yvonne admiring Koalas at Philip Island Nature Parks Koala Conservation Reserve.

Desert Women’s Leadership Trip - Melbourne

The Desert Women Rangers Leadership Exchange was an opportunity for six women rangers from three desert ranger teams to develop their leadership and public speaking skills, connect with Victorian-based rangers, and enjoy the sights and sounds of south-eastern Australia.

Lynette and Raewyn from the Nyangumarta Rangers, Sumayah and Regina from Ngurrara Rangers, and Leonie and Yvonne from the Wiluna Martu Rangers made the long journey from Bidyadanga, Fitzroy River and Wiluna to Melbourne.

All rangers presented to a wide range of audiences, including schools, corporate events, national parks rangers, and Melbourne’s Lord Mayor. The women reported feeling more connected to the Australian conservation network and were inspired by their interactions with local Indigenous organisations in Victoria.

Desert Internship

The ILM sector needs more good people working the right way and supporting rangers to continue leading the way up. As Indigenous ranger programs have grown across the desert, rangers and their organisations have identified the need for more recruitment and training of ranger coordinators to support ranger team development, leadership and operations.

This year, the IDA in partnership with Birriliburu Indigenous Protected Area (IPA), Warnpurru Rangers and Desert Support Services have planned a pilot internship program as part of strengthening employment pathways in the ILM sector.

The Desert Internship program will provide real-world, practical experience with community-based Indigenous ranger programs. The internship has been designed to equip interns with the foundational skills to work the right way in the ILM sector.

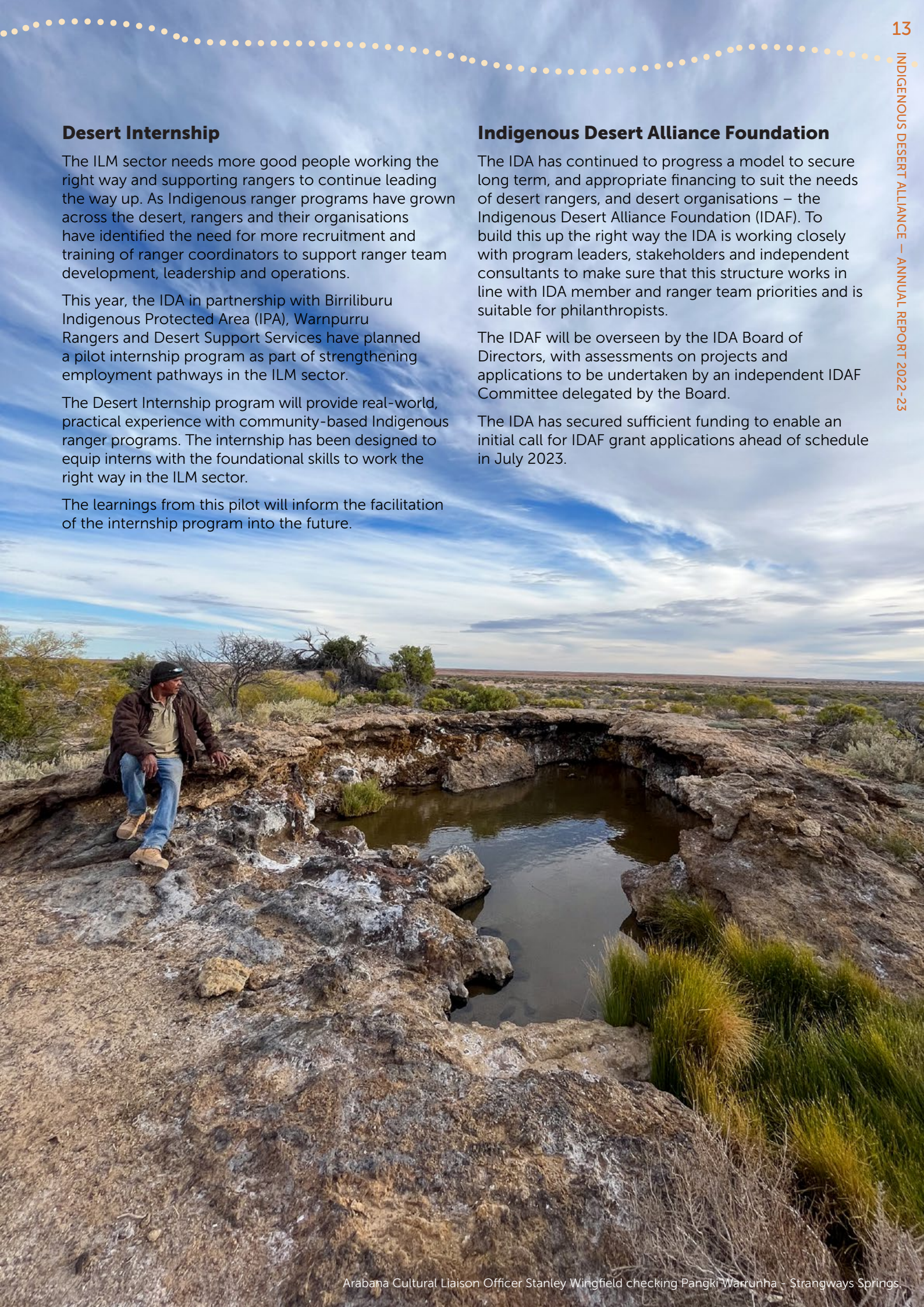
The learnings from this pilot will inform the facilitation of the internship program into the future.

Indigenous Desert Alliance Foundation

The IDA has continued to progress a model to secure long term, and appropriate financing to suit the needs of desert rangers, and desert organisations – the Indigenous Desert Alliance Foundation (IDAF). To build this up the right way the IDA is working closely with program leaders, stakeholders and independent consultants to make sure that this structure works in line with IDA member and ranger team priorities and is suitable for philanthropists.

The IDAF will be overseen by the IDA Board of Directors, with assessments on projects and applications to be undertaken by an independent IDAF Committee delegated by the Board.

The IDA has secured sufficient funding to enable an initial call for IDAF grant applications ahead of schedule in July 2023.



“I’ve learnt, just like public speaking in general, not to be afraid, just you know talk with knowledge and with, always with smiles on your face.” Sumayah Surprise, Ngurrara Ranger

Arabana Cultural Liaison Officer Stanley Wingfield checking Pangki Warrunha - Strangways Springs



Walungurru ranger, Farren Major, during aerial burning at Cleland Hills, Haasts Bluff Aboriginal Land Trust.



Warakurna Elders and Ranger Team, (from L-R) Devon Yates, Ernest Bennett, Shaun Nickholds, Simon Butler and Craig Jackson conducting cultural clearance for aerial burning at Lake Christopher Ngaanyatjarra IPA.



Birrilburu Rangers Ramarno Jackman and DP ground burning.



Spinifex Ranger Team making a burn plan at Ilkurlka, on the Anangu Tjutaku IPA during training.

Desert Projects

Right-Way Desert Fire Program

IDA members have continued to build their fire programs collaboratively across the desert. Ranger teams are working with each other to shift from wrong-way fire, dominated by large, intense bushfires, to right-way fire, a culturally informed fire regime whose implementation is led by TOs and whose outcomes reflect traditional practice. The Right-Way Desert Fire Program (RWDF Program) coordinated regional fire management workshops, including at the IDA conference, which brought neighbouring groups together to plan for the burning season.

Fire Operations

The RWDF Program, now considered the world's biggest Indigenous led fire management program, provides coordination and specialised support, which has led to widespread implementation of landscape scale and culturally informed fire management.

Fire management activities, on Country trips and multi ranger team collaborations on large scale fire work doubled between the first and second year of the RWDF Program. In the 2022-23 period, year three, the number of fire management activities remained stable, but the scale of these activities dramatically increased on two fronts, participation, and outputs.

The number of ranger teams participating increased by 32% between 2020-21 and 2022-23. In that same period the number of Indigenous participants increased by 119%.

Hours of aerial planned burning using helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft have increased by 209% since the beginning of the RWDF Program. The number of aerial incendiaries used has increased by 93% and the number of hectares strategically burnt in the cool season has increased by 437%.

Capacity Building

RWDF training and regional cooperation has built the capacity of ranger teams to undertake landscape-scale fire work, including using aircraft. During 2022-23, the IDA responded to ranger-identified need for formal and informal training by arranging training events and developing and trialling a ground burning curriculum.

In April 2023, the IDA coordinated a regional training in incendiary machine operation (IMO) at Watarrka National Park for rangers from the Tjuwanpa, Anangu Luritjiku, Arltarpilta Inelye and Murnkurumurnkurru teams, as well as TOs from Watarrka and Tennant Creek and land management staff from the CLC. The training accredited participants to undertake aerial burning operations. This significantly increases the fire management capacity of ranger teams in the NT.

Informal IMO training, either to introduce the concept of aerial burning to rangers unfamiliar with it or refresh existing knowledge, was also undertaken with Ngaanyatjarra, Warnpurru and Yilka Ranger Teams during on Country fire trips.

During 2022-23 the IDA continued its partnership with the Bushfire Centre of Excellence to develop and pilot a practical on Country course for and with Indigenous ranger teams. The Spinifex Ranger Team hosted a training at Ilkurlka on the Anangu Tjutaku IPA and the Ngururpa Ranger Team hosted a training at Yagga Yagga on the Ngururpa IPA. These pilots provided an important opportunity for rangers to test the content and training approach.

“We had a lot of bushfire here in 2018...so we been doing training to keep the Ilkurlka roadhouse safe.”

Nancy Donegan, senior Spinifex Ranger

Research

Fire management programs across the desert are growing and increasingly merge Indigenous cultural practice with contemporary technologies such as aerial burning. As a result, ranger teams have an increased desire to understand the impacts of the programs, utilise that knowledge to inform ongoing management, and communicate it to communities. As a result, the IDA is developing an Indigenous led Fire Research Strategy to provide a framework to ensure that desert fire research is focused on the priorities of TOs and IDA members. In doing so, it will strengthen the fire management capacity of desert ranger teams and ensure their voice is at the forefront of related research.



Kaltukatjara Cultural Lead Ranger, Bernard Bell talking about right way desert fire at the IDA Conference.

“We burn in the cooler time and watch the weather for which way the wind blows. We aim to burn the spinifex that are seven to ten years old.”

Bernard Bell, Kaltukatjara Cultural Lead Ranger

Threatened Species Program

The IDA’s Threatened Species Program supports Indigenous rangers and TOs to take a leading role in management activities for the protection of threatened species. The program aims to improve outcomes for threatened species through Indigenous led management. It also highlights the intersection of culture and science in conservation work. The IDA’s focus on this area of work ensures that an Indigenous led organisation is at the forefront of national threatened species programs.

Rangers Speak Up

Many ranger teams spoke up about their threatened species work during this period. The 2022 IDA Conference was an opportunity for teams to present on their diverse projects, share information and develop connections for future collaborative work. The presentations included:

- Anangu Luritjiku Ranger Team: Central Rock Rats
- Ngaanyatjarra, Watarru and Kiwirrkurra Ranger Teams: Great Desert Skinks
- Ngururpa Ranger Team: Night Parrots
- Wiluna Martu Ranger Team: Golden Bandicoots
- Warru East Ranger Team: Warru (Black-Footed Rock-Wallaby)

On World Earth Day in April 2023, the Kiwirrkurra Ranger Team and the IDA Ecologist Rachel Paltridge featured in the BBC/PBS documentary Changing Planet which was broadcast internationally. The documentary highlighted Indigenous management of fire, threatened species and feral animals as ways to mitigate against the effects of climate change and showcased the work of the Kiwirrkurra Ranger Team.

Research to Support Priority Threatened Species

In 2022, the IDA partnered with the National Environmental Science Program (NESP) to deliver research to inform decision making and on-ground action to promote the persistence of threatened species. The IDA is using this funding to support rangers’ work with three priority threatened species in the desert: Bilby, Tjakura and Night Parrot. Research is being co-designed with rangers to investigate how to improve management of introduced predators and fire.

Most importantly, the research is collaborative, using a two-way science approach. This integrates local Indigenous knowledge with the latest technologies to develop efficient, effective and user-friendly monitoring techniques and threat-management programs.

Initial actions in the Priority Species Project have started. These include trials of Eradicat baiting by the Kiwirrkurra Ranger Team to protect a bilby population. The Ngururpa Ranger Team have also conducted Felixer grooming trap trials to protect night parrots. Rangers have completed training to get their 1080 certificates and Felixer certificates.

In May 2023, rangers from the Kiwirrkurra, Ngururpa, Ngurra Kayanta, Punmu, and Warlpiri Ranger Teams travelled to Pullen Pullen Night Parrot Reserve in Queensland for a knowledge sharing trip hosted by local Maiawali custodian Judith Harrison and scientists from Bush Heritage Australia. Rangers learnt from scientists about the ecology of night parrots in Queensland and in turn shared their knowledge about plants found in Night Parrot diets, traditional techniques for cat hunting and controlled burning practices that are vital for protecting threatened species.

Tjakura [Great Desert Skink] Recovery Plan

In 2021, the Australian Government commissioned the IDA to develop an Indigenous led Tjakura Recovery Plan to set out the research and management actions necessary to support the recovery of the Great Desert Skink. IDA members, including Traditional Owners and Indigenous rangers were involved in the development of the plan, making it the first Indigenous-led threatened species recovery plan in Australia.

Implementation of the Tjakura Recovery Plan began in the 2022-23 period. It started with a spectacularly successful national monitoring program across the desert called Mulyamiji March. Mulyamiji is the Martu name for Great Desert Skink.

The national Recovery Plan emphasises that culture is at the heart of conservation. Groups participating in Mulyamiji March created giant Tjakura sculptures and a Tjakura cultural expert sang the Tjukurpa song and told the cultural story at the launch. Local school children were involved, with some even taking part in the monitoring. This connection between culture and conservation activities is vitally important for sustainable threatened species work.

Mulyamiji March

During the three-week Mulyamiji March event in 2023, 110 Indigenous rangers from 13 ranger teams established 90 monitoring sites across three states. Using consistent monitoring methodology rangers recorded 541 active Great Desert Skink burrow systems.

It is notable that the monitoring included a survey by the Wiluna Martu Ranger Team on the Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara IPA which confirmed the presence of Great Desert Skinks on Matuwa for the first time since 1964 and a survey by the APY Watarru Ranger Team on the Watarru IPA which found the first records of Great Desert Skink in South Australia since 2014. The ongoing monitoring program will track progress against key conservation objectives in the national recovery plan.

Throughout 2022-23, in addition to monitoring, ranger teams increased the number of sites where fire management is conducted so that Great Desert Skink habitat is protected. Rangers also built their capacity to manage feral cats at key sites.

Nature and Carbon Markets Program

The IDA has been actively exploring opportunities for desert ranger teams to participate in and benefit from emerging biodiversity markets. The IDA has led the development of the Desert Habitat Method (DHM), which has recently been accredited through Accounting for Nature. This is highly significant because it is the first Accounting for Nature Method developed by an Indigenous organisation.

The DHM provides a third-party approved framework that Indigenous groups can work through to measure and report on the benefits of their land management in a standardised and rigorous way. The method draws on 20 desert ILM plans and is based on current scientific evidence. It outlines an innovative approach for measuring and reporting on the condition of native vegetation as habitat for native animals within Australia’s spinifex dominated desert regions.

Achieving approval for the method was a crucial first step. Now the IDA is preparing to trial the DHM. This involves the development of software tools to automate the accounting process, as well as working with member organisations to implement the method in the field.

The IDA has also led a significant collaborative research program to collect scientific data to enable an extension of savanna burning accounting methods. This is needed so that the existing methods can also be used in the northern desert region that is subject to the monsoonal

influence and frequent fire. The results of this research were recently published in the [Journal of Environmental Management](#).

The paper sets out the scientific case for extending savanna burning accounting methods into the northern arid zone. This paper and the associated data have been provided to the Australian Government’s Method and Inventory Teams, the Clean Energy Regulator, and to CSIRO staff who have incorporated the data into the Full Carbon Accounting Model (FullCAM). The IDA is in regular contact the with Clean Energy Regulator and the DCCEEW method development team. The IDA is advocating that savanna burning accounting methods be extended further south as soon as possible to provide northern desert Indigenous groups an opportunity to participate in the carbon economy.

In May 2023, the IDA hosted an online Desert Carbon Forum. The forum updated IDA members and other partners on this Indigenous Land and Sea Council (ILSC) funded fire/carbon project. Presenters included researchers, government staff from the regulator, those responsible for method development and IDA staff. The event was well attended and was important for promoting the work that has been undertaken via this project.

“The Tjakura has got dreaming. We want the young people to learn about it and hold on to it.”

Raelene Wilson, Anangu Traditional Owner, Tjakura Women’s Project Team at Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park



Tjakura Women’s Project Team at Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park.



KJ Martu elder Thelma Judson tracking Mulyamiji



Kiwirrkurra and Warburton Women’s Rangers surveying for Tjalapa



Kintore-based Walungurru Rangers finishing their Tjalapa survey for the day

10 DESERTS PROJECT

The 10DP is drawing to a close and will end in December 2023. The project has provided a unique opportunity to demonstrate collective action to build environmental resilience across the desert at a landscape scale.

Even though 10DP partners were focused on winding up their final commitments in 2022-23 there have been many great achievements. This is an indication of partners' energy and commitment. It shows that they have leveraged their successful work to achieve investment from other funders, including government.

The success of the 10DP has enabled the IDA to facilitate the:

- Mobilisation of large, landscape scale, collaborative efforts such as regional fire management.
- Implementation of Australian Government policy mechanisms such as National Threatened Species Recovery Plans.
- Development of new markets for supporting Indigenous-led land management and biodiversity protection such as nature and carbon markets.

The 10DP's support for fire management led to the development of the IDA's RWDF program (outlined above). During 2022-23 10DP partners continued to participate in training and undertook fire work throughout the year. They took part in large landscape scale management of Country through aerial burning as well as on-ground fire work.

The majority of 10DP funded ranger teams are now operating with the use of leveraged funds. These well-established teams are IDA members and have achieved success engaging in high value activities, such as threatened species surveys, fire operations and training events. In the past year, 10DP partners focused on work which supported emerging ranger teams including on Country trips and IDA events.

Activities promoting Indigenous Cultural and Ecological Knowledge (ICEK) continued at pace. It is noticeable that 10DP partners consistently achieved more than the targeted KPIs for this strand of the 10DP in 2022-23.

ICEK work, which recognises the importance of incorporating Indigenous knowledge and practices in land management is of high, intrinsic value to rangers. However, it can be difficult for ranger teams to access funding for ICEK work. This demonstrates how important it is for the IDA to continue supporting ranger teams to pass on their knowledge and care for Country, long past the end of the 10DP.

The IDA has carried many of the functions of the 10DP forward and seen great engagement and opportunities for the broader membership from actions that the 10DP instigated. The IDA will continue to build on the outcomes of the 10DP which has enabled the growth of our network and sector through on ground actions, advocacy and networking.

"The desert is a big place that many of our mob call home, and we can be happy with the work that we have done, and proud of the platform we have built for all IDA members to work from into the future."

Peter Murray, 10 Deserts Project Annual Report, Chairperson's Report.



Simpson Desert IPA planning trip with Traditional Owners, Akityarre Rangers and Ltyentye Apurte Rangers.



APY Rangers promoting their Umuwa Statement.



Nyangumarta on-country trip with BHP Foundation.



Ngurrara Rangers, Kurlku Back to Country trip.



Still from Reading the Country film featuring senior Warlpiri Elder Jerry Jangala Patrick.

It is interesting to try to look at what sort of lizard is this track



Derrick Butt and Murphy Williams Jr. KJ Parningurr Ranger team White Gums camp.



KJ Martu ranger training.

Strong Organisation

IDA Board of Directors

Throughout the year, IDA's Indigenous-led Board have actively worked with the IDA's management team to implement the organisation's new strategic plan. This has involved dedication of significant time to ensuring that the organisation, projects and programs are appropriately resourced for the long term. In developing strategic partnerships, the Board has been vocal about the importance of sustainability and longevity of the vital work of Indigenous desert rangers, and for funding models to be flexible and responsive to the needs and aspirations of the desert.

The Board has also put their minds to succession planning, both at a management and Board level, to ensure smooth transition of people in and out of roles, while maintaining best practice and high levels of corporate and cultural knowledge.

As part of the IDA's commitment to continuous improvement, the Board has implemented new policies in response to growth and evolution of the organisation as well as emerging issues and trends in corporate governance. As is standard practice, reviews have also been conducted on existing policies to ensure they are up to date and effective. Examples of new policies include Safeguarding Policy and Cyber Security Policy while policies such as Delegations Policy, Anti-Money Laundering and the Privacy Policy, amongst others have been reviewed and updated.



Board and Committees

The Board meets at least four times a year, with a meeting schedule adopted early in the calendar year. At each meeting, the Board considers the IDA's performance against its strategic plan and monitors its financial position, risk management, workplace health and safety systems and key operational activities. Detailed reports are provided to the Board by the management team.

Committees

The Board has also established committees to assist the Board by considering aspects of the business in more detail and providing recommendations to management and the Board.

Each committee has a Terms of Reference set by the Board which includes the committee's roles, responsibilities and reporting requirements. The IDA has a Risk Committee, Finance and Audit Committee and Workplace Health and Safety Committee.

Board Meetings

Although the threat of COVID-19 is largely over, the Board have continued to embrace technology as a cost effective and efficient means of holding meetings. It also provides a flexibility for Directors allowing them to participate in regular meetings without having to undertake extensive travel away from home and work.

Board meetings were held on 24 & 25 August 2022, 19 October 2022, 2 & 3 February 2023 and 15 June 2023. Board Meeting attendance over the 2022-23 reporting period was as follows:

Board Member	Ward	Meeting Attendance	Notes
Nyaparu Rose	North-West	4/4	
Andrew Minyardie	North-West	4/4	
Josephine Grant	North-East	0/2	Term ended 17 November 2022
Boyd Elston	North-East	4/4	
Harvey Murray	North-East	2/2	Commenced 17 November 2022
Vacant	South-West	-	
Mick Haynes	South-East	3/4	
Vacant	South-East	-	
Rob Carruthers	Independent	3/4	
Stephen Moloney	Independent	3/4	

Although outside of the formal reporting period for 2022-23, the IDA Board appointed Helen Wilson (North-East Ward) and Sam Stuart (South-East Ward) as casual vacancies until the 2023 AGM.



Nyaparu Rose at IDA Conference acknowledging IDA Indigenous staff members in the background Jade, Kerenza, Elijah and Sam.

Management team

The CEO has responsibility for the day-to-day management of the organisation via a formal delegation from the IDA Board. The CEO leads the IDA team in achieving the organisation's mission and objectives and ensures the implementation of the strategic and business plans.

The senior management team for 2022-23 was comprised of Lindsey Langford - CEO, Emmanuel Hondros - General Manager and Christina Araujo - Legal & Governance Officer. Since the end of the 2022-23 reporting period, the senior management team has expanded to reflect the growth of the organisation and the implementation of succession plans and now includes Samantha Murray - Deputy CEO and Gareth Catt - Desert Partnerships Manager.

For 2023-24, the broader management team will include Dan Johanson - Desert Projects Operations Manager, Zack Wundke - Sector Development Manager, Jon Hodgetts - IDA Coordinator, and Luke Sweet - Communications Manager.

"I like to see other ranger groups and learn what it is for them to grow and get somewhere, to get that support out there so everyone is together."

Sam Stuart, Arabana Head Ranger

Risk Management

The IDA engages in regular and proactive risk identification, management and mitigation of strategic, financial, operational, reputational, legal, compliance and governance risks. It has implemented a range of processes to ensure that identifying and managing risk is an on-going exercise across all parts of the organisation.

The Risk Committee meets four times a year where it reviews IDA's risk register, ensuring that it is up to date, responsive and compliant with any legal requirements. The Committee and the IDA more broadly, benefits from advice from an independent and expert risk adviser. The Committee reports up to the Board, who sets IDA's risk appetite and provides oversight on how risk is being managed. The 2022-23 reporting period saw the addition of risks & mitigation strategies around Traditional Owner IP, adaption to climate change and safeguarding.

Workplace Health and Safety

The IDA has a comprehensive safety management system and a strong safety culture, supported by the Workplace Health and Safety Committee who meet regularly to review all incidents, systems and procedures. All incidents and any incident management responses are reported through to the Board.

The IDA works with its members, Directors and Indigenous staff to ensure that the organisation and its offices operate in a culturally safe manner.

Members

The IDA has 25 members across its four wards. In the 2022-23, it welcomed four new members: Yalata Anangu Aboriginal Corporation, Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC, Tjuwanpa Outstation Resource Centre Aboriginal Corporation and Jamukurnu Yapalinkurnu Aboriginal Corporation (Western Desert Lands) RNTBC.

Membership of the IDA is subject to the requirements set out in the IDA Constitution. However, it is important to note that Indigenous ranger teams in the desert may access projects and services provided by the IDA regardless of whether their organisation is a member of the IDA.

Ranger Teams and Co-Management Boards

APY Land Management

- 1 - Antara-Sandy Bore Rangers
- 2 - Apara-Makiri-Punti Rangers
- 3 - Kalka-Pipalyatjara Rangers
- 4 - Walalkara Rangers
- 5 - Warru East Rangers
- 6 - Warru West Rangers
- 7 - Watarru IPA Rangers

Arabana Aboriginal Corporation

- 8 - Arabana Rangers

Australian Wildlife Conservancy

- 9 - Newhaven Sanctuary Rangers
- 10 - Ngaurrtju Sanctuary Rangers

Central Land Council

- 11 - Anangu Angas Downs Rangers
- 12 - Anangu Luritjiku Rangers
- 13 - Anmatyerr Rangers
- 14 - Aputula Rangers
- 15 - Akityarre Rangers
- 16 - Kaltukutjarra Rangers
- 17 - Ltyentye Apurte Rangers
- 18 - Murnkurumurnkurru Rangers
- 19 - Muru-warinyi Ankul Rangers
- 20 - North Tanami Rangers
- 21 - Tjakura Rangers
- 22 - Tjuwanpa Rangers
- 23 - Walungurru Rangers
- 24 - Warlpiri Rangers
- 25 - Utopia Rangers

Coober Pedy Council

- 26 - Kanku-Breakaways Co-management
- 27 - Tallaringa Co-management

Desert Support Services

- 28 - Birriliburu Rangers
- 29 - Kiwirrkurra Rangers
- 30 - Kulyakartu Rangers
- 31 - Marputu Rangers
- 32 - Ngurra Kayanta Rangers
- 33 - Ngururpa Rangers
- 34 - Wakamurru Rangers

Dugalunji Aboriginal Corporation

- 35 - Lake Eyre Basin Rangers

Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation

- 36 - Far West Coast Rangers

Gawler Ranges Aboriginal Corporation

- 37 - Gawler Ranges Co-management

Goldfields Aboriginal Community Services

- 38 - Goldfields Land Management Rangers

Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa (KJ)

- 39 - Jigalong Rangers
- 40 - Kunawarrtji Rangers
- 41 - Parnngurr Rangers
- 42 - Punmu Rangers

Karajarri Traditional Lands Association

- 43 - Karajarri Rangers

Kimberley Land Council

- 44 - Kumirrk Rangers
- 45 - Paruku Rangers

Maralinga Tjarutja Aboriginal Corporation

- 46 - Oak Valley Rangers

Ngaanyatjarra Council

- 47 - Blackstone Rangers
- 48 - Warakurna Rangers
- 49 - Warburton Rangers

Ngadju Conservation Aboriginal Corporation

- 50 - Ngadju Rangers

Nipapanha Aboriginal Corporation

- 51 - Nantawarrina Rangers

Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation

- 52 - Nyangumarta Rangers

Pila Nguru Aboriginal Corporation

- 53 - Spinifex Rangers

South Australia Co-management Boards

- 54 - Mamungari Conservation Park Co-management
- 55 - Nullarbor Co-management
- 56 - Yumbarra Co-management

Tarlka Matuwa Piarku Aboriginal Corporation

- 57 - Wiluna Martu Rangers

Tjirilya Aboriginal Corporation

- 58 - Mt Willoughby Rangers

Tjiwarl Aboriginal Corporation

- 59 - Tjiwarl Rangers

Tjuwanpa Aboriginal Corporation

- 60 - Tjuwanpa Womens Rangers

Walalakoo Aboriginal Corporation

- 61 - Nyinkina Mangala Rangers

Yalata Community Inc

- 62 - Yalata Rangers

Warnpurru Aboriginal Corporation

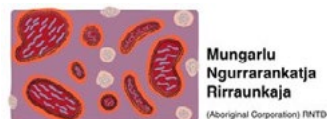
- 63 - Warnpurru Rangers

Yanunijarra Aboriginal Corporation

- 64 - Ngurrara Rangers

Yilka Heritage and Land Care

- 65 - Yilka Rangers



IDA Supporters

Meaningful partnerships are needed to secure the future of Indigenous land management in the desert. The IDA works with a range of partners across sectors to promote desert land management, facilitate access to expertise and in the development and resourcing of collaborative projects that can achieve regional impacts.

The IDA is grateful for the support of our partners.



The IDA would also like to thank its generous philanthropic supporters.

Acronyms

used in this report

Acronym	Full term
10DP	Ten Deserts Project
AfN	Accounting for Nature
APY	Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara
ARP	Aboriginal Ranger Program
AWLB	Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
CLC	Central Land Council
CNP	Country Needs People
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DHM	Desert Habitat Method
DSS	Desert Support Services
FullCAM	Full Carbon Accounting Model
GVD	Great Victoria Desert
ICEK	Indigenous Cultural and Ecological Knowledge
IDA	Indigenous Desert Alliance
IDAF	Indigenous Desert Alliance Foundation
ILM	Indigenous Land Management
ILSC	Indigenous Land and Sea Council
IMO	Incendiary Machine Operation
IPA	Indigenous Protected Area
KJ	Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa
KLC	Kimberly Land Council
NESP	National Environmental Science Program
NTD	Native Title Determination
NT	Northern Territory
NM	Nyikina Mangala
RC	Ranger Coordinator
RDP	Ranger Development Program
RWDF	Right-Way Desert Fire
SA	South Australia
TO	Traditional Owner
WA	Western Australia

DIRECTOR'S DECLARATION

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Indigenous Desert Alliance Limited, the directors of the company declare that:

- The financial statements and notes, as set out in pages 14 to 36 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:
 - Comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and
 - Give a true and fair view of the financial position of the company as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the year then ended on that date.
- There are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Chairperson



Nyaparu Rose
19 October 2023

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue			
Operating grants, subsidies and contributions	4	6,486,181	7,521,193
Fees and charges	5	-	68,934
Interest received		102,648	1,045
Other revenue	6	1,355,447	465,557
		<u>7,944,276</u>	<u>8,056,729</u>
Expenses			
Employee costs		(2,686,492)	(1,770,491)
Materials and contracts	7	(4,924,857)	(3,768,798)
Depreciation	14	(201,264)	(80,528)
Interest Expenses		(8,505)	(1,467)
		<u>(7,821,118)</u>	<u>(5,621,284)</u>
Operating result for the year before income tax		<u>123,158</u>	<u>2,435,445</u>
Income tax expense		-	-
Operating result for the year after income tax		<u>123,158</u>	<u>2,435,445</u>
Other comprehensive income for the year			
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			
Items that will be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss when specific conditions are met			
Total other comprehensive income for the year		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Comprehensive Income for the year		<u>123,158</u>	<u>2,435,445</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	8	4,732,184	5,291,243
Trade and other receivables	9	326,601	125,140
Total Current Assets		<u>5,058,785</u>	<u>5,416,383</u>
Non-Current Assets			
Fixed Assets	10	247,413	318,013
Right of use assets	15	157,843	2,887
Total Current Assets		<u>405,256</u>	<u>320,900</u>
Total Assets		<u>5,464,041</u>	<u>5,737,283</u>
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	11	421,932	1,081,809
Provisions	12	188,048	102,479
Lease liabilities	15	140,864	3,071
Total Current Liabilities		<u>750,845</u>	<u>1,187,359</u>
Non-current Liabilities			
Provisions	12	150,463	129,989
Lease liabilities	15	19,637	-
Total Non-current Liabilities		<u>170,100</u>	<u>129,989</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>920,945</u>	<u>1,317,348</u>
Net Assets		<u>4,543,096</u>	<u>4,419,935</u>
Equity			
Retained earnings	13	4,543,093	4,419,935
Total Equity		<u>4,543,093</u>	<u>4,419,935</u>

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

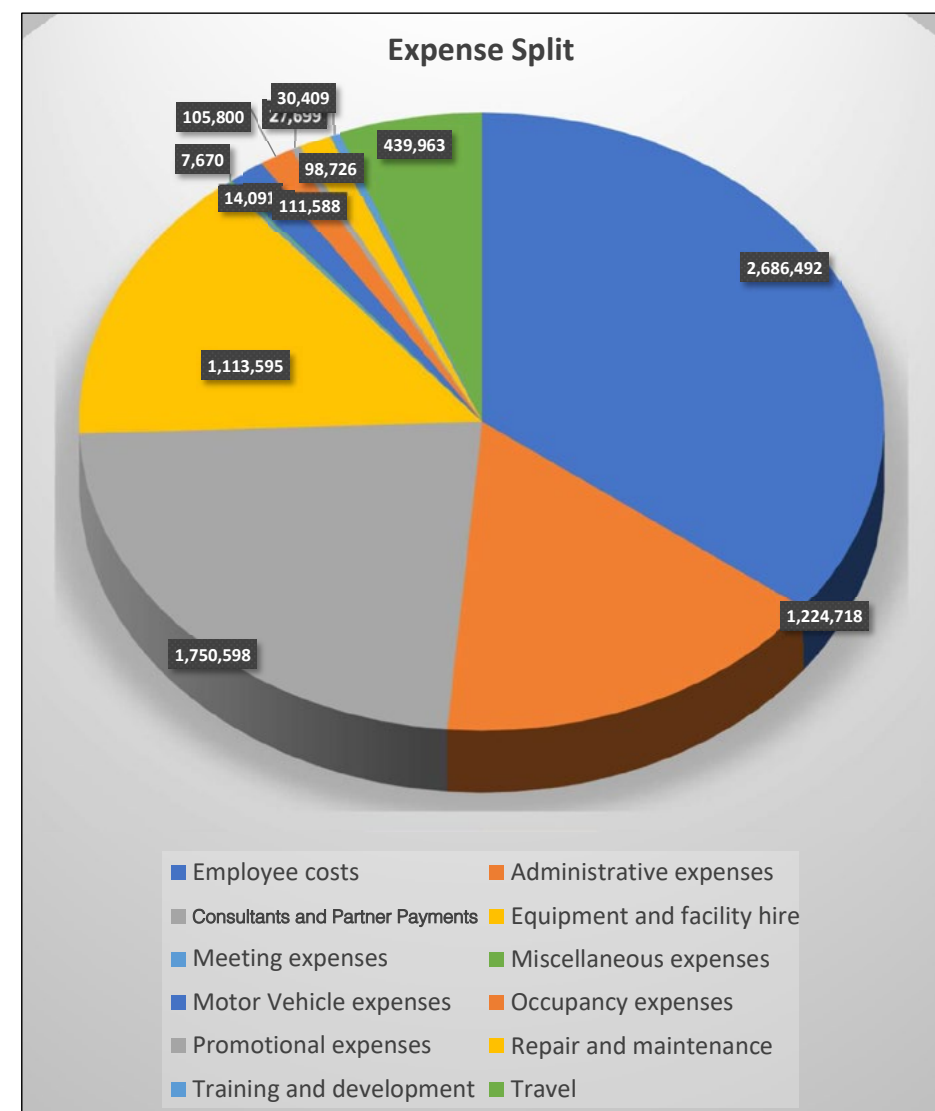
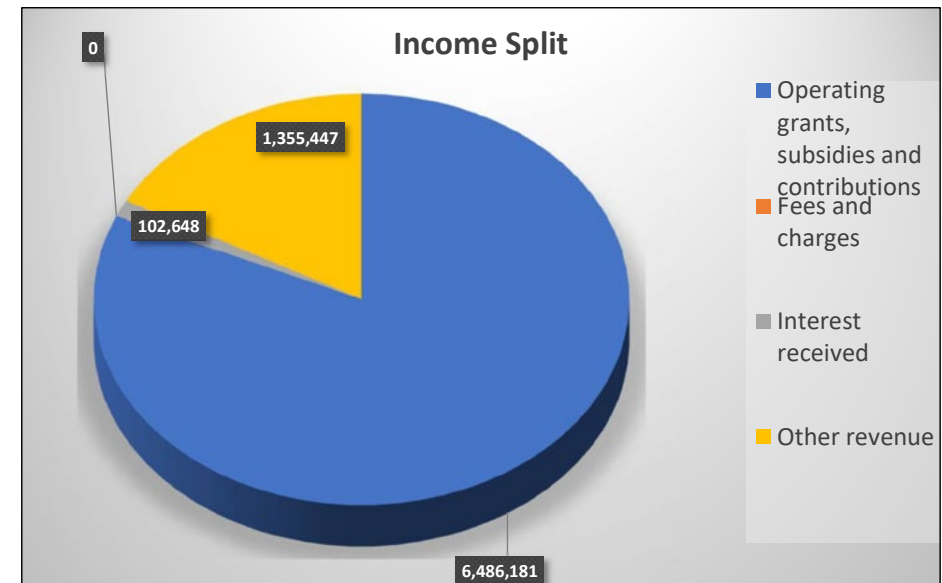
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Retained Earnings	Share Capital	Total
	\$	\$	\$
2022			
Balance at the beginning of the year	845,138	-	845,138
Operating result of the year	2,435,445	-	2,435,445
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-
Unspent grants transferred from DSS	1,139,352	-	1,139,352
Total comprehensive income for the year	3,574,797	-	3,574,797
Balance at end of the year	4,419,935	-	4,419,935
2023			
Balance at the beginning of the year	4,419,935	-	4,419,935
Operating result of the year	123,158	-	123,158
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	123,158	-	123,158
Balance at end of the year	4,543,093	-	4,543,093

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash Flow from Operating Activities			
Receipts from operations		7,450,659	9,030,147
Payments to suppliers and employees		(7,965,182)	(4,593,298)
Interest received		23,204	1,181
Interest paid		(8,505)	(1,467)
Net GST recovered (paid)		68,950	(144,536)
Net Cash from/(used in) Operating Activities	14	<u>(430,873)</u>	<u>4,292,027</u>
Cash Flow from Investing Activities			
Payments for purchase of fixed assets		-	(363,891)
Net Cash from/(used in) Financing Activities		<u>-</u>	<u>(363,891)</u>
Cash Flow from Financing Activities			
Payments for principal portion of lease liabilities		(128,190)	(35,579)
Net Cash from/(used in) Financing Activities		<u>(128,190)</u>	<u>(35,579)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(559,063)	3,892,557
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		5,291,244	1,398,687
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	8	<u>4,732,181</u>	<u>5,291,244</u>



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To: The Members of Indigenous Desert Alliance Ltd

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Indigenous Desert Alliance Ltd, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of Indigenous Desert Alliance Ltd is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so. The going concern basis of accounting is appropriate when it is reasonably foreseeable that the company will be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

The directors are responsible for overseeing the company's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members.



CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANTS



LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME APPROVED UNDER PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS LEGISLATION
Macleod Corporation Pty Ltd is a CPA practice

Our objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of members taken on the basis of this financial report.

We have complied with the competency standards set by Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC). Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements, and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report, or if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during the audit.

Paul Gilbert FCPA MBA
Macleod Corporation Pty Ltd
Unit 8, 76 Proudlove Parade, ALBANY WA 6330

Dated this 5th October 2023



LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME APPROVED UNDER PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS LEGISLATION
Macleod Corporation Pty Ltd is a CPA practice

CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANTS





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Connect with the IDA

